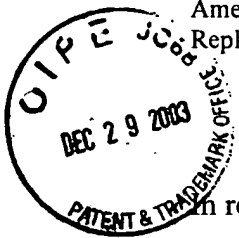


Appln. No.: 09/531,397
Amendment dated December 29, 2003
Reply to Office Action mailed September 29, 2003



#12
1-B-04
Amdt/B
SB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Joseph C. Ballantyne

Serial No.: 09/531,397

Filed: March 21, 2000

For: Real-Time Scheduler

Atty. Docket No.: 3797.81466

Group Art Unit: 2127

Examiner: Ali, Syed J.

Confirmation No.: 6866

AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 02 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 29, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.